

INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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COUNTRY Poland

REPORT

SUBJECT Security Procedures/Naval and Merchant Ships/Port Facilities

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REFERENCES

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25X1

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The Office of Naval Intelligence furnished the following information to CIA for USIB dissemination

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1. The channel and approaches to the port of Gdynia clearly marked, and anchorage ground. The no unusual tides or currents.

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2. The fresh water facilities of the port were excellent, and the quality of the water better than that of . The water was pumped aboard from a well or sump which was beneath the pier. A high pressure pipe was used, and the rate of flow was about 50 tons per hour or twice as fast as . A woman was in charge of the issuance of fresh water, and it was necessary to have an order in well in advance to get it when needed. The administrative phase of supplying water was inefficient.

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3. about 10 to 15 movable, electric, grab-type cranes of three to five-ton capacity on the coaling pier and they appeared to be in good condition. The coal was brought to the pier by railroad car. a few cranes of the semi-portal jib type on the passenger pier. Deck and miscellaneous supplies could be purchased. There was no paint available in the port, and it appeared to be badly needed. no evidences of new construction on the New Pier, but there were a few grain warehouses on it.

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4. Gdynia has a modern hospital with good facilities. The city has a program whereby any merchant seaman who is picked up by the local authorities for being drunk is taken to the hospital instead of jail. The seamen is given a clean bed, medical attention if needed, and released the next day. A bill is then sent to his ship to cover the costs of the medical care.

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- 2 -

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5. [] numerous [] Polish ships loading general cargo, much of which were Christmas decorations of Polish origin for world-wide distribution. [] observed one [] vessel of one thousand tons loading blueberries [] and one [] ship loading coal. [] saw two Polish destroyers, formerly Soviet vessels of the Skoryy class berthed at the Gdynia Naval Shipyard, and two or three Skoryy class destroyers of about 2500-2600 tons berthed at the piers near the Naval Armament Depot. [] no unusual activity aboard these vessels.

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6. [] many young people dressed in uniforms throughout the city, and flags were flying on the passenger pier as a result of a recent visit by Gomulka. [] Gomulka's reception was not as enthusiastic as in other parts of the country. The people of Gdynia seemed afraid to talk, and were very wary of those with whom they spoke.

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[] had no traffic with the black market, but one could get money at a good profit in this manner. The Polish government is in great need of foreign currency, but at the same time it does not want zlotys to leave the country.

[] The people of Gdynia are very much in need of used clothing, and many [] seamen made profits by selling their old clothes. General living conditions remain quite poor, and often six people share the same room with no water or toilet facilities. Most of the people of Gdynia were able to eat only two or three square meals a month.

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